Next Token Generation

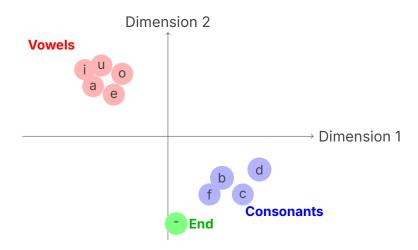
Nipun Batra

IIT Gandhinagar

July 30, 2025

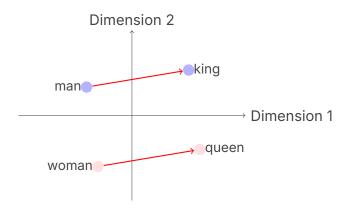
Vocabulary Size:

26 letters + 1 hyphen = **27 characters**



Word2Vec Analogy Example

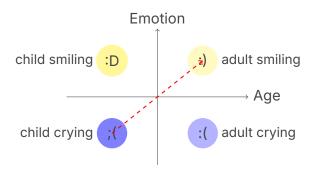
Classic Word2Vec Relationship



Relationship: queen \approx king - man + woman

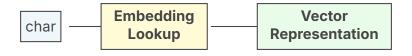
Analogy with Emotions

Emotional Expression Analogy



Relationship: child crying = child smiling + adult crying - adult smiling

Embedding Matrix/Table Concept



Process: Character \rightarrow Lookup in Embedding Table \rightarrow Dense Vector

Embedding Table Structure

27 × K Embedding Matrix

Char	D1	D2	•••	DK
а	0.2	-0.1		0.8
b	-0.3	0.5		-0.2
С	0.1	0.3		0.4
:	•	:	٠	:
z	0.7	-0.4		0.1
_	0.0	0.9		-0.5

Key Point

Each character maps to a K-dimensional vector.

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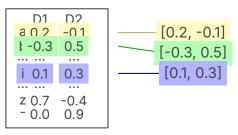
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 - MLP: (context_size × K) \rightarrow hidden \rightarrow ... \rightarrow 27

Example: 2D Embeddings for "abi"

Embedding Matrix (27 x 2)

Input: X = ["a", "b", "i"]



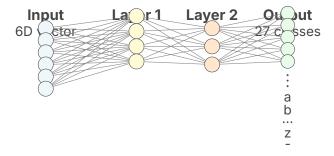
Concatenate the Embeddings

Feature Vector Construction

Result

3 chars × 2D embeddings = 6D input to neural network

Multi-Layer Perceptron Architecture



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 (1)

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 - Backward pass: Update both embeddings and MLP weights
 - 4. Repeat for all training examples

Sampling from the Learned Model

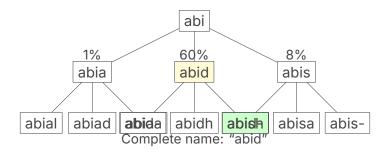
Test Input: "abi"

Predicted Probability Distribution

Next Char	Probability	Next Char	Probability
а	0.01	n	0.05
b	0.01	0	0.02
С	0.03	р	0.01
d	0.60	q	0.00
е	0.02	r	0.03
f	0.01	S	0.08
•••	•••		•••
_	0.05	z	0.01

Most Likely Continuation

Generation Tree Structure



Recursive Process: Sample next character, append, repeat until end token

Standard Softmax:

$$P(y_i) = \frac{e^{z_i}}{\sum_{j=1}^{27} e^{z_j}}$$
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 - $T \rightarrow \infty$: More uniform (random)

Temperature Variations

Context: "abi" → Next character probabilities

Char	T=0.5 (Low)	T=1.0 (Default)	T=2.0 (High)
а	0.001	0.01	0.08
d	0.95	0.60	0.25
S	0.01	0.08	0.12
h	0.005	0.03	0.09
-	0.02	0.05	0.11
others	0.015	0.23	0.35

• Low T: Conservative, predictable

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• High T: Creative, diverse

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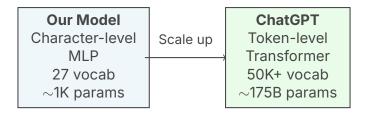
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 - Billions of parameters instead of thousands

From Character-Level to ChatGPT



Same fundamental principle: Predict the next token!